

521, 206
Rec'd UST/PTO 19 JAN 2005

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 January 2004 (29.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/009193 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A63F 3/02

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2003/003070

(22) International Filing Date: 10 July 2003 (10.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
02078012.8 24 July 2002 (24.07.2002) EP
02078666.1 9 September 2002 (09.09.2002) EP

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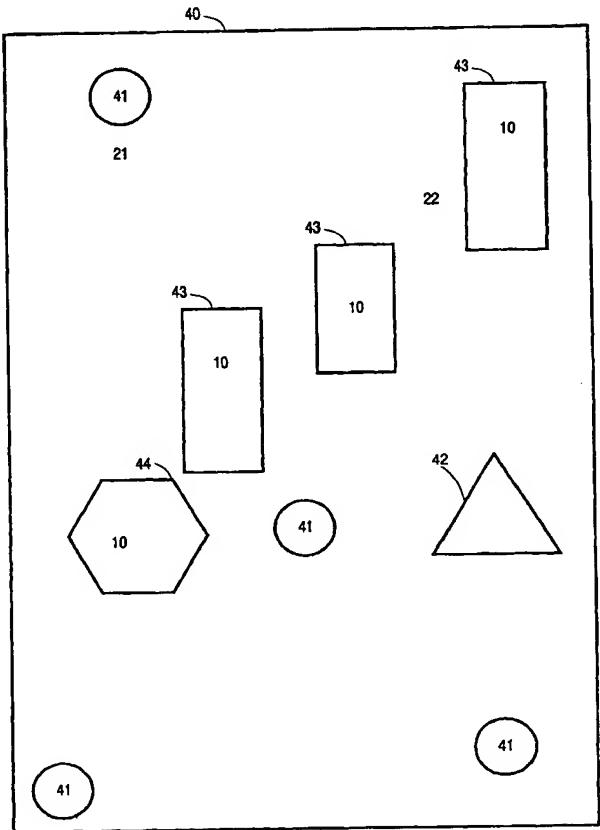
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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC,
SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: GAME BOARD AND GAME ELEMENT WITH DETECTING MEANS



(57) Abstract: This invention relates to a method of playing a game by means of a game element (10). The invention further relates to a game element and a game board for playing a game. Said method comprises the steps of: placing the game element on a first location relative to a game board (40); determining, by the game board, the first location of the game element; determining, by the game board, a first information item representing game content, wherein said first information item is dependent on said location and a first game being played; transferring, by the game board, the first information item to the game element; and receiving and presenting said first information item on the game element. Said first information item may include plain text, pictures, frames, video, word-processor data, spread-sheet data, game figures, game elements, text or picture messages, and combinations thereof. Said step of determining the first location of the game element includes the steps of: transmitting, by at least one transmitter located on the game element, at least one signal identifying said game element; receiving, by at least one sensor (41) located on the game board, at least one identifying signal; and determining, by the game board, the first location based on at least one identifying signal. This allows addition of new game elements to a game without actually new elements being bought because modified information presented on said game elements may modify their kind and appearance.

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ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO*

patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

- *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational Application No.
PCT/IB 03/03070**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 1-6 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 1-4: Rule 39.1(iii) PCT – Scheme, rules and method for playing games;
Claims 5-6: Rule 39.1(vi) PCT – Program for computers
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 89/03070

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5129654	A 14-07-1992	AT AU DE DE EP WO	138588 T 1235192 A 69211122 D1 69211122 T2 0565637 A1 9211909 A1	15-06-1996 17-08-1992 04-07-1996 09-01-1997 20-10-1993 23-07-1992
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/03070

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A63F3/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A63F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 129 654 A (BOGNER BRUCE F) 14 July 1992 (1992-07-14) column 7, line 48 -column 8, line 1 column 8, line 52 - line 64 column 10, line 55 -column 12, line 18; figures -----	7-9
X	GB 2 271 724 A (BAXTER MALCOLM) 27 April 1994 (1994-04-27) page 3, line 30 -page 4, line 28; figures -----	7-9
A	US 4 372 558 A (KOBAYASHI KAZUTSUGU ET AL) 8 February 1983 (1983-02-08) column 2, line 62 -column 4, line 25; figures -----	7
X		8,9

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the International search report

20 October 2003

06/11/2003

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